Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization

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REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY ORGANIZATION

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 10 September 1996, the General Assembly, by its resolution 50/245, adopted the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty and requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Treaty, to open it for signature as soon as possible. The Treaty was opened for signature on 24 September 1996 and as of 7 March 1997, 142 States had become signatories.

2. On 19 November 1996, States signatories of the Treaty held a meeting chaired by Ambassador Mark Moher of Canada, and adopted a resolution approving the "Text on the Establishment of a Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization", as contained in document CTBT/MSS/RES/1.

II. ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION

3. The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization held its first session from 20 to 22 November 1996 at United Nations Headquarters in New York and from 3 to 7 March 1997 in Geneva. The following 116 States signatories participated in the session: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

A. The First Part of the First session

4. The first session of the Preparatory Commission was opened by Mr. Prvoslav Davinic, Director of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

5. At its first plenary meeting, on 20 November 1996, the Preparatory Commission elected by acclamation Ambassador Jacob S. Selebi, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations, as its Chairman for the first session. Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung, Secretary of the Disarmament and International Security Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, served as Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the first session.

6. The Commission adopted its agenda for the session as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/1/Rev.1.

7. The Commission adopted its provisional rules of procedure as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/2 and Corr.1 and also adopted a decision in that regard as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/15/Rev.1. In connection with the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure, the Chairman of the Commission read out an understanding with regard to rule 34 dealing with "Interpretation" which states:

> "First, it is noted that interpretation services in all languages of the Commission shall be provided at all plenary sessions and in all meetings of those subsidiary bodies created directly by and reporting directly to the Commission.
>
> "Second, as regards meetings of other subsidiary bodies, which shall normally be conducted in one informal working language, interpretation from and into one or more other languages of the Commission shall be provided if so requested in advance by a member."

The provisional rules of procedure of the Commission provided for: (a) a Credentials Committee consisting of six members, appointed by the Commission upon the proposal of the Chairman; (b) such subsidiary bodies as necessary for the exercise of its function; (c) a Chairman, six Vice-Chairmen and such other officers as it may decide; and (d) a Provisional Technical Secretariat, composed of the Executive Secretary and such other staff as may be required.

8. The Preparatory Commission elected by acclamation five Vice-Chairmen on the basis of the agreed geographical regions: Algeria (African States), Russian Federation (Eastern European States), Argentina (Latin American and Caribbean States), Canada (North American and Western European States), and Indonesia (South-East Asian, Pacific and Far Eastern States). The Commission also appointed the following States signatories as members of the Credentials Committee: Costa Rica, Kenya, Marshall Islands, Romania and Sweden.

9. The Commission adopted its provisional financial regulations as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/7 and Corr.1 and also adopted a decision in that regard as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/6/Rev.2.

10. The Commission adopted its provisional staff regulations and rules as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/8/Rev.1.

11. The Commission took note of the report on host country commitments of the Government of Austria to the Preparatory Commission (CTBT/PC/I/11/Add.1) and adopted the host country agreement as contained in the annex document CTBT/PC/I/11/Add.1. It also adopted a decision in connection with the host country agreement as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/11/Rev.1.

12. At its third plenary meeting, on 22 November 1996, the Preparatory Commission, in view of the lack of time to consider several outstanding items on the agenda, decided: (a) to suspend the first session and to resume it from 3 to 11 March 1997 at Geneva; (b) to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in accordance with the resolution of the Meeting of States

signatories adopted on 19 November 1996 (CTBT/MSS/RES/1), to continue to provide the necessary assistance and services to the Commission at its resumed first session.

B. The Second Part of the First session

13. The resumed first session of the Preparatory Commission was held from 3 to 7 March 1997 in the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

14. The Preparatory Commission, at its fourth plenary meeting on 3 March 1997, elected Bangladesh as its Vice-Chairman, in accordance with Rule 7 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure, for the geographical region of the Middle East and South Asia. At this juncture, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed his reservation on the said geographical region.

15. The Preparatory Commission, at the same plenary meeting decided to appoint Dr. Wolfgang Hoffmann as the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization, initially for 24 months, from 3 March 1997 until 2 March 1999, with terms and conditions contained in document CTBT/PC/I/3/Rev.3.

16. Also, at the same meeting, the Preparatory Commission established Working Group A dealing with budgetary and administrative matters and appointed Ambassador Tibor Toth of Hungary as its Chairman. The Commission further established Working Group B dealing with verification issues and appointed Dr. Ola Dahlman of Sweden as its Chairman. It was the understanding that both Working Groups will deal, inter alia, with their programme of work for the remainder of 1997. In order to facilitate the work of Working Groups, the Commission approved its indicative schedule of meetings for the week of 3-7 March.

17. The Preparatory Commission decided at the same meeting to establish its Provisional Technical Secretariat in Vienna, as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/12/Rev.2. In respect of this decision, two background information documents were available and should be read together with the decision as a confirmation of the understandings on which the decision was based:

- the organigramme containing the structure of the Provisional Technical Secretariat;
- the dotted lines do not depict lines of subordination but rather lines of cooperation; and
- a document listing the candidates for the posts at grade D-1 with brief biographical details on each candidate.

In this regard, it is the understanding that all senior management positions are subject to the principle of rotation among States signatories.

18. In accordance with the entrusted mandate and the adopted schedule of meetings, Working Group A held three meetings under the chairmanship of

Ambassador Tibor Toth of Hungary. During the course of its discussion, various views were expressed and different proposals were made. As a result of its deliberations, Working Group A submitted, on 7 March, its report to the plenary meeting of the Preparatory Commission for consideration as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/WG.A/1.

19. In accordance with the entrusted mandate and the adopted schedule of meetings, Working Group B held three meetings under the chairmanship of Dr. Ola Dahlman of Sweden. During the course of its discussion, various proposals were put forward by delegations. As a result of its deliberations, Working Group B submitted, on 7 March, its report to the plenary meeting of the Preparatory Commission for consideration as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/WG.B/1.

20. In accordance with Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Credentials Committee held its first meeting on 5 March 1997 and selected the representative of Romania as Coordinator. The Credentials Committee examined all credentials submitted by States signatories for the first session and adopted its report as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/19.

21. The Preparatory Commission further appointed, in accordance with Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, Nepal as the sixth member of the Credentials Committee, on 7 March for the geographical region of the Middle East and South Asia.

22. A list of documentation for the first session of the Preparatory Commission is contained in Annex III of the present report of the Commission.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

23. The Preparatory Commission, at its fifth plenary meeting on 7 March, took note of the report of the Credentials Committee.

24. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Commission adopted the report of Working Group A and the recommendations contained therein as Annex I of the present report of the Commission.

25. Also at the same meeting, the Preparatory Commission adopted the report of Working Group B and the recommendations contained therein as Annex II of the present report of the Commission.

26. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Commission decided to adopt the recommendation of Working Group A and its programme of work for the remainder of 1997 and the recommendation of Working Group B and its programme of work for the remainder of 1997 as contained in Annex IV of the present report of the Commission.

27. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Commission decided to adopt the budget for 1996 and 1997 and the scale of assessments for contributions of States signatories as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/5/Rev.4.

28. The Preparatory Commission, at the same meeting, considered the date and possible agenda of the second session, as contained in

document CTBT/PC/I/1/Rev.2, and decided to hold its second session from 12 to 16 May 1997 at Vienna, with the agenda contained in document CTBT/PC/I/1/Add.1.

29. The Preparatory Commission, also at the same meeting, decided to authorize a limit of 20 million Austrian schillings allotted to the necessary work on offices of the International Data Centre of the Provisional Technical Secretariat in Vienna.

30. At its third plenary meeting on 5 March 1997, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization adopted its report for the first session as contained in document CTBT/PC/I/L.2, and concluded the session.

ANNEX I

Report of Working Group A

I. Introduction

1. At its fourth plenary meeting on 3 March 1997 the Preparatory Commission decided to: (a) establish Working Group A to assist it in the examination of budgetary and administrative matters; (b) appoint Mr. Tibor Tóth (Hungary) to chair the Working Group; and (c) request it to deal inter alia with: (i) a budget and scale of assessments for the Preparatory Commission for 1998; (ii) a programme of work for the remainder of 1997; (iii) rules of procedure; (iv) financial regulations and rules; (v) staff regulations and rules; and to set up expert groups as appropriate.

2. Working Group A held three meetings from 3 to 7 March 1997 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Tibor Tóth. Mr. Michael Cassandra, Political Affairs Officer of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, served as Secretary of the Working Group.

II. Programme of work for the remainder of 1997

3. Working Group A decided to concentrate its work during the three meetings at its disposal on the consideration of a programme of work for the remainder of 1997. In that connection, it also considered a schedule of meetings for the same period. The Chairman of Working Group B was invited to participate in the consideration of the programme of work and schedule of meetings.

4. Working Group A recommends that the Preparatory Commission adopt the programme of work for the remainder of 1997 for the Preparatory Commission, (Annex IV to the Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission (CTBT/PC/I/22)). It further recommends that the Preparatory Commission adopt the schedule of meetings attached to the programme of work.

III. Finance Group

5. Pursuant to rule 14.1 of the Provisional Financial Regulations of the Preparatory Commission (CTBT/PC/I/7 and Corr.1), Working Group A recommends that the Preparatory Commission establish a Finance Group at its second session.

IV. Adoption of the report

6. At its third meeting on 7 March 1997, Working Group A adopted its report as amended.

ANNEX II

Report of Working Group B

1. The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization, at its fourth plenary meeting on 3 March 1997, decided to:

(a) Establish Working Group B to assist the Preparatory Commission in the examination of verification and authorize it to establish expert groups as required;

(b) Appoint Dr. Ola Dahlman (Sweden) to chair the Working Group;

(c) Request Working Group B to deal, inter alia, with:

(i) A programme of work for the remainder of 1997.

2. Working Group B held three meetings under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ola Dahlman of Sweden from 5 to 6 March 1997. Ms. Jenifer Mackby, Senior Political Affairs Officer of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, served as Secretary of the Working Group.

3. The Working Group recommends that the Preparatory Commission adopt the Programme of Work for the remainder of 1997, (Annex IV to the Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission (CTBT/PC/I/22)), which includes the provision for a Working Group/Expert meeting to be held 7-18 April 1997.

4. At its third meeting on 6 March 1997, the Working Group adopted its report as amended which will be attached to the report of the Preparatory Commission as Annex II.

ANNEX III

List of documents

CTBT/PC/I/1/Rev.1	-	Agenda.
CTBT/PC/I/2 and Corr.1	-	Provisional rules of procedure of the Preparatory Commission. (Adopted on 20 November 1996.)
CTBT/PC/I/3/Rev.3	-	Appointment of the Executive Secretary: Terms and conditions: Decision. (Adopted on 3 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/4/Rev.1	-	Towards the second session of the Preparatory Commission: a proposed work programme.
CTBT/PC/I/5/Rev.4	-	Adoption of the budget for 1996 and 1997 and the scale of assessment for contributions of States signatories: Decision. (Adopted on 7 March 1997.)
- Annex I	-	Budget for 20 November to 31 December 1996.
- Annex I, Appendix	-	Non-recurrent expenditures incurred by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/245.
- Annex II	-	Budget from 1 January to 11 March 1997.
- Annex III	-	Budget from 12 March to 31 December 1997.
- Annex IV, Part I	-	Scale of assessment for expenditures incurred in 1996 by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/245.
- Annex IV, Part II	-	Scale of assessment for expenditures incurred in 1997 by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/245 and for the 1997 Budget of the Preparatory Commission.
CTBT/PC/I/6/Rev.2	-	Provisional financial regulations and rules: Decision. (Adopted on 20 November 1996.)
CTBT/PC/I/7 and Corr.1	-	Provisional financial regulations of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization. (Adopted 20 November 1996.)
CTBT/PC/I/8/Rev.1	-	Provisional staff regulations and rules: Decision. (Adopted on 20 November 1996.)

CTBT/PC/I/9/Rev.2	-	Establishment of the necessary subsidiary bodies: Working Group A: Decision. (Adopted on 3 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/10/Rev.4	-	Establishment of the necessary subsidiary bodies: Working Group B: Decision. (Adopted on 3 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/11/Rev.1	-	Host Country Agreement: Decision. (Adopted on 20 November 1996.)
and Add.1	-	Report on Host Country Commitments of the Government of Austria to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Preparatory Commission.
- Annex	-	Host Country Agreement.
CTBT/PC/I/12/Rev.2	-	Establishment of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization: Decision. (Adopted on 3 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/13/Rev.3	-	Date and possible agenda of the next session: Decision. (Adopted on 7 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/14 and Corr.1	-	Indicative Structure for the Preparatory Commission. (Withdrawn.)
CTBT/PC/I/15/Rev.1	-	Adoption of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Preparatory Commission: Decision. (Adopted on 20 November 1996.)
CTBT/PC/I/16	-	Election of the Chairman and other officers of the Preparatory Commission: Decision. (Adopted on 20 and 22 November 1996.)
and Add.1	-	Decision. (Adopted on 3 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/17	-	Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee: Decision. (Adopted on 22 November 1996.)
and Add.1	-	Decision. (Adopted on 7 March 1997.)
CTBT/PC/I/18	-	Date and possible agenda of its next session: Decision. (Adopted on 22 November 1996.)
CTBT/PC/I/19 and Corr.1	-	Report of the Credentials Committee.
CTBT/PC/I/20	-	Working Paper submitted by France entitled "Evaluation/Scientific and Technical Development inside the PTS".

CTBT/PC/I/21	-	Working Paper submitted by China entitled "Proposed Overall Work Programme for the Establishment of the CTBT Verification Regime".
CTBT/PC/I/22	-	Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization. (Adopted on 7 March 1997.)
Annex I	-	Report of Working Group A
Annex II	-	Report of Working Group B
Annex III	-	List of documents
Annex IV	-	Programme of work for the remainder of 1997.
CTBT/PC/I/WG.A/1	-	Draft Report of Working Group A (Final version of the Report is contained in Annex I of the Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission.)
CTBT/PC/I/WG.B/1	-	Draft Report of Working Group B (Final version of the Report is contained in Annex II of the Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission.)
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.1/Rev.2 (English only)	-	Provisional Budget: Background Information.
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.2 (English only)	-	Draft Annex II to CTBT/PC/I/5, Part I, Scale of Assessment of States signatories to the CTBT for the provisional budget and Part II, Scale of Assessment of non-recurrent expenditures incurred by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/245.
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.3 and Corr.1 (English only)	-	Establishment of the Provisional Technical Secretariat: Organigramme. (Withdrawn.)
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.4 and Corr.1 (English only)	-	Establishment of the necessary subsidiary bodies: Organigramme. (Withdrawn.)
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.5/Rev.1	-	Draft Report of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission.
Annex	-	Draft Programme of Work for the remainder of 1997.
CTBT/PC/I/CRP.6 (English only)	-	Draft Report of the Credentials Committee.
CTBT/PC/I/INF.1/Rev.5 (English only)	-	Provisional list of documents.

CTBT/PC/I/INF.2 (English only)	-	Provisional list of delegations (First Session, First Part.)
CTBT/PC/I/INF.3 (English only)	-	List of Secretariat. (First Session, First Part.)
and Rev.1 (English only)	-	Secretariat. (First Session, Second Part.)
CTBT/PC/I/INF.4 (English only)	-	List of States signatories.
CTBT/PC/I/INF.5 (English only)	-	Note by the Secretariat. (Letter from the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission to Ambassador Kreid of Austria.)
CTBT/PC/I/INF.6 (English only)	-	Financial situation of the Preparatory Commission. (Presented by the Executive Secretary.)
CTBT/PC/I/L.1	-	Adoption of the Programme of Work: Draft Decision. (Withdrawn.)
CTBT/PC/I/MISC.1 (E/F/S)	-	Provisional List of delegations. (First Session, First and Second Parts.)
CTBT/PC/I/INF.7	-	List of delegations. (First Session, First and Second Parts.)

ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE REMAINDER OF 1997

I

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR WORKING GROUP A

PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF WORKING GROUP A AND ITS EXPERT GROUPS

A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The working group should hold brief organizational meetings during the sessions of the Preparatory Commission so as to initiate the work with the intention of then convening in formal and concentrated sessions immediately prior to the next session of the Preparatory Commission in order to complete its work, to the extent possible, prior to that session.

2. Expert group and expert meetings will be held as appropriate. Meetings of the working group and those of the expert groups should not be held at the same time.

3. Expert groups or expert meetings should present their reports to the working group in time for the latter to prepare for decision by the plenary session of the PrepCom.

4. The working group should ensure that any report containing any recommendations for action at the session of the Commission should be circulated no later than 10 days in advance of plenary decision, to allow adequate time for consideration.

5. The Executive Secretary should supply appropriate support services to meetings of the working group and to the expert meetings.

B. ON PREPARATION FOR MEETINGS

1. Chairpersons of groups of experts or expert meetings should be identified by the chair well in advance of scheduled meetings and preferably during the session of the Commission immediately preceding the intersessional periods for which the chairpersons are designated.

2. Background and discussion papers prepared by the chairpersons of the groups of experts with the assistance of the Secretariat should be available at least one week before scheduled meetings. Background papers should also be prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the working group or groups of experts.

C. ON COORDINATION OF ACTION

1. Chairpersons of working groups should regularly coordinate their activities bearing in mind the Commission's Programme of Work.

2. Chairpersons of working groups should also regularly coordinate their activities with chairpersons of expert meeting or groups of experts and vice versa.

3. During plenary sessions the Chairperson of the Commission should meet with Chairpersons of working groups and groups of experts to coordinate their actions.

D. ON STRUCTURE OF REPORTS FROM GROUPS OF EXPERTS

1. The structure of reports of expert meetings or groups of experts should be streamlined to avoid repetition of ideas and proposals considered and adopted by them earlier.

2. Reports from expert meeting or groups of experts should reflect the latest evolution of the different issues under consideration.

E. ON TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS

1. Final reports from expert meetings or groups of experts submitted to the working group and Commission for action, adoption, or decision shall be translated in all languages.

2. Notes prepared by the Executive Secretary and documents submitted by the Member States requiring specific attention or decisions of the Commission shall also be translated in all languages.

TASKS AND TIMETABLE FOR WORKING GROUP A FOR 1997

First intersessional period (March-May 1997)

- Complete Financial Regulations
- Begin work on Staff Regulations and other staff issues
- Begin work on Rules of Procedure
- 1998 Programme of Work (structure)
- 1998 Budget (structure)

Second PrepCom (May 1997)

- Review and adopt Financial Regulations
- Review and adopt, if possible, draft Staff Regulations and review other staff issues
- Review draft Rules of Procedure and adopt, if possible
- Assign to PTS development of:
  (a) Financial Rules
  (b) Staff Rules

Second intersessional period (May-September 1997)

- Begin work on drafting 1998 Budget
- Begin work on drafting 1998 Programme of Work
- Complete Staff Regulations and other staff issues
- Complete Rules of Procedure, if necessary
- Draft Model Agreements or Arrangements

Third PrepCom (September 1997)

- Review PTS draft Financial Rules
- Review PTS draft Staff Rules
- Adopt Staff Regulations and any other staff issues
- Adopt Rules of Procedure, if not already adopted

- Review draft 1998 Budget
- Review draft 1998 Programme of Work

Third intersessional period (September-December 1997)

- Complete 1998 Budget
- Complete 1998 Programme of Work

Fourth PrepCom (December 1997)

- Adopt 1998 Budget
- Adopt 1998 Programme of Work
- Adopt Financial Rules
- Adopt Staff Rules

II

PROGRAMME OF WORK ON VERIFICATION: WORKING GROUP B AND PROVISIONAL TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT (PTS)

The Work Programme presented in this paper is based on the tasks for WG B and the PTS outlined in PrepCom Document CTBT/MSS/L.1, in particular paragraphs 8 (c), 12, 13, 14 and 15 and Annex I.

The verification work will be carried out both within WG B and the PTS. WG B is to support the PrepCom by making recommendations on goals and tasks for the build-up of the system over time, and by making assessments of the cost implications and defining requirements and technical specifications where needed. WG B should further assist the PrepCom in monitoring the progress in the PTS. The PTS is to execute the tasks given to it by the PrepCom. It will carry out the practical work of establishing and operating the provisional verification system.

The Work Programmes for 1997 and beyond will naturally start from the verification facilities available today. Thanks to work conducted by a large number of countries within the frame of the CD and its GSE, important resources are available in the form of a prototype IDC and global experimental sensor networks. Subject to fulfilling the specifications of the stations to be established by the PrepCom, the degree of completeness of these networks varies, depending on the technology concerned. It ranges from being 64 per cent complete for the IMS primary seismic network to 2 per cent for the infrasound network. The auxiliary seismic network is 32 per cent complete; the hydroacoustic network is 27 per cent complete; and the radionuclide network is 15 per cent complete.

The Work Programme proposed for 1997 in this plan will provide for the establishment of a verification regime capable of meeting the verification requirements for entry into force of the CTBT. The bulk of the work for 1997 will consist in developing specifications and recommendations to be adopted by the PrepCom, and will be carried out in WG B. The PTS will be in its initial build-up phase during 1997.

During 1997 WG B should develop technical specifications and requirements, plans, policies, guidelines, procedures and documentation on a number of issues related to the IMS, the IDC, Communications and OSI. WG B should also support WG A in developing model agreements or arrangements with countries hosting IMS facilities. WG B proposals on these issues should provide a basis for subsequent PrepCom decisions.

WG B is authorized to establish expert groups and other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary and to arrange meetings with such subsidiary bodies within the budget allocated to WG B.

Basic to the work of the PrepCom, WG B and the PTS is the availability of well-trained personnel from around the world. Because such human resources are not readily available, there is an imminent need to initiate within the PrepCom a comprehensive training programme in the various verification technologies. WG B should develop and implement a training programme which

would prepare people for assignment to the PTS in Vienna as well as for working at national facilities. A training plan should be presented at the second PrepCom meeting and an international training programme should be implemented during 1997.

WG B should present to the second PrepCom meeting a proposal on how to provide expert and integrated technical advice on monitoring, data communications and analysis issues, and for technical supervision of the IMS and the IDC implementation.

The PrepCom should, at its second session, assume responsibility for GSETT-3 and other ongoing technical tests. WG B should develop a plan for the PrepCom to take on such responsibility, with the understanding that these activities continue to be funded by host countries on a voluntary basis. The PrepCom should recommend that States continue to operate their facilities for this prototype seismic system and other technical tests to allow for the uninterrupted operation and development of the evolving IMS, including the prototype IDC, as well as the continued evaluation and calibration. WG B should take appropriate steps to provisionally coordinate those tests until the second PrepCom meeting.

WG B should develop proposals for a Work Programme with associated cost estimates for the verification work to be conducted by WG B and the PTS for 1998. An initial proposal is to be presented at the third PrepCom meeting.

The PTS will be in an initial build-up phase during 1997 and its work programme therefore will be limited. It should include the gradual hiring of professionals within the verification field and arranging the infrastructure in the VIC, especially for the IDC. The PTS should support WG B in arranging meetings, implementing training programmes and in the conduct of surveys of existing stations and sites for new stations. The PTS should further start concluding agreements or arrangements for IMS facilities. It should also procure and install initial IDC hardware, acquire and install IDC software, and initiate procurement and installation of IMS station equipment.

Below is an indicative list of tasks that WG B should carry out during 1997 and a provisional timetable. This list should be reviewed at forthcoming PrepCom meetings. It is followed by WG B and expert work organization and scheduling.

TASKS AND TIMETABLE FOR WORKING GROUP B FOR 1997

Below is an indicative list of the tasks that the WG B should carry out during 1997 and a provisional timetable. The suggested number of PrepCom meetings in 1997 is without prejudice to decisions to be taken by the PrepCom. WG B should present material and proposals at the PrepCom meetings indicated. This list should be reviewed at forthcoming PrepCom meetings.

Second PrepCom meeting:

- Establish an initial plan for the progressive commissioning of the International Data Centre (IDC) and the International Monitoring System (IMS) and for the implementation of related responsibilities

- Establish a comprehensive training programme for the IDC and consider a comprehensive training programme for the IMS

- Develop a proposal on how to provide expert and integrated technical advice on monitoring, data communications and analysis and for technical supervision of the IMS and the IDC implementation

- Develop a plan for the PrepCom to take responsibility for GSETT-3 and other ongoing tests

- Develop data authentication requirements

For IDC

- Develop software and hardware specifications

- Develop and review an overall hardware procurement plan and review first order of equipment

- Develop an outline for the operational manual for the IDC

- Develop initial IDC concept of operations document

- Initiate work on event screening criteria

For IMS

- Support Working Group A in developing model agreements or arrangements to be concluded by the PTS in order to make site surveys, take an inventory of existing stations and install new stations as IMS facilities

- Develop station specifications

- Develop plans for taking an inventory of existing stations, including their quality and specifications, in order to assess the amount and cost of upgrade necessary

- Develop principles for the selection of sites for noble gas monitoring stations in the context of initiating work on a proposal on which 40 out of the 80 radionuclide stations will have noble gas capability upon entry into force of the Treaty

- Develop an outline for the operational manual for each IMS technology

For Comm

- Review communications requirements and identify potential options for global communications infrastructure establishment

For OSI

- Establish initial proposals for guidelines and procedures for the conduct of an OSI and for OSI infrastructure to support the OSI regime

Third PrepCom meeting

- Review the status of the initial plan for the progressive commissioning of the International Data Centre (IDC) and the International Monitoring System (IMS) and for the implementation of related responsibilities

- Develop a proposal for a Work Programme with associated cost estimates for verification work by WG B and the PTS for 1998

- Implement a training programme for the IDC and for the IMS

- Review PTS staff plan for verification for 1998

For IDC

- Prepare an Evaluation Report on the prototype IDC analysis procedures, data processing capabilities, software and software documentation

- Develop an initial draft IDC operational manual

For IMS

- Propose policies for procurement and installation of station equipment

- Develop initial draft IMS operational manuals

- Develop plans for implementing the station network and for commissioning/certifying stations

- Provide advice on station configuration to fit the local environment for infrasound and hydroacoustic stations

For Comm

- Develop an initial plan for global communication infrastructure establishment

For OSI

- Establish more refined proposals for guidelines and procedures for the conduct of an OSI and for OSI infrastructure to support the OSI regime

- Establish initial requirements for procurement of OSI equipment and for logistics

Fourth PrepCom meeting

- Develop a final proposal for a Work Programme for verification work by WG B and the PTS for 1998

- Review requirements for the procurement of equipment to be purchased in 1998 and make recommendations as appropriate.

WG B AND EXPERT WORK ORGANIZATION AND SCHEDULING

The work of WG B and the expert work on verification should be organized in a cost-effective and fully transparent way that would allow the active participation of all States. Work should be concentrated in limited time intervals, where possible in direct connection with PrepCom sessions, and modern communication techniques should be utilized to make it possible for experts to participate also from their home facilities using fax and E-mail. Arrangements for facilitating such input will be developed in the near future. The organization of the work and the schedule suggested below is an attempt to meet those concerns.

The suggested organization of the WG B work is based on two basic ideas:

- The work should be task-oriented and expert work should be specifically directed towards the tasks given by the PrepCom. This would provide more focused work, actively involving a larger number of people, and would also provide larger flexibility than more or less permanent expert groups.

- The meetings of WG B and the expert meetings should be integrated and concentrated in limited time periods. This would facilitate work that is highly dependent on experts coming from capitals and would in general be more cost-effective and transparent.

These ideas could be realized in the following work cycle covering the period between the first and the second PrepCom sessions. The integrated WG B and expert meetings take place as illustrated below, with a short session immediately following PrepCom 1 meeting and another, more extensive, session in the period between PrepCom 1 and PrepCom 2 meetings, scheduled for 7-18 April 1997.

The method of work can be illustrated as follows:

(1) The WG B session immediately following the PrepCom 1 session

- Review and analyse the work programme given to WG B by the PrepCom and identify the concrete tasks to be carried out until the next PrepCom

- Appoint a "Task leader" for each individual task to be responsible for conducting expert discussions and for providing a draft report on the actual issue

- Conduct initial discussion within WG B, and, if necessary, in expert meetings, to define the direction of work during the interim period until the next WG B meeting

(2) Interim period between WG B meetings

- "Task leader" works in an open and transparent process with experts from States signatories through available means of communications to develop a draft report

(3) WG B session between PrepCom 1 and 2 sessions

- Review draft reports from "Task leaders"

- Conduct expert meeting and consultations, as needed, on individual tasks, under the guidance of the "Task leader"

- Prepare recommendations to the PrepCom based on the reports presented

The scheduling of WG B sessions should be reconsidered in view of the experience gained after PrepCom 2, with an ambition to further concentrate the meetings around the PrepComs. The PrepCom should evaluate progress in WG B and the expert meetings, with modification of the meeting schedule as appropriate.

For planning purposes, the total number of WG B meetings for 1997 will be 23. The number of expert meetings depends on the actual tasks.

Annex IV

Appendix

SCHEDULE OF WORKING GROUP A AND B RELATED MEETINGS
FOR THE FIRST INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD
(10 MARCH-12 MAY)

	AM	PM
April 1	WG A: Fin/staff regulations and rules	WG A: Progr. of work/Rules of procedure
April 2	IM [1]/EM [2](A): Financial regulations and rules	IM/EM(A): Staff regulations and rules
April 3	IM/EM(A): Financial regulations and rules	IM/EM(A): Staff regulations and rules
April 4	IM/EM(A): Financial regulations and rules	IM/EM(A): Staff regulations and rules

	AM	PM
April 7	WG B: Adoption of agenda Presentation of reports by task leaders and discussion	WG B: Presentation of reports by task leaders and discussion Organization of expert meetings
April 8	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	EM(B) chaired by task leaders
April 9	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	EM(B) chaired by task leaders
April 10	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	WG B: Review results of expert meetings EM(B) chaired by task leaders
April 11	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	EM(B) chaired by task leaders

	AM	PM
April 14	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	WG B: Presentation and discussion of draft WG B reports on individual tasks
April 15	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	EM(B) chaired by task leaders
April 16	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	WG B: Presentation and discussion of draft WG B reports on individual tasks
April 17	EM(B) chaired by task leaders	EM(B) chaired by task leaders
April 18	WG B: Adoption of WG B reports on individual tasks, Adoption of report containing recommendations by WG B to PrepCom on each task, Other business, Draft agenda for next meeting	

	AM	PM
April 28	IM/EM(A): '98 Programme of work and budget	IM/EM(A): '98 Programme of work and budget
April 29	WG A: Financial regulations and rules	WG A: Staff regulations and rules
April 30	WG A: Rules of procedure	WG A: '98 Programme of work and budget

1.WG: Working Group.

2.IM: Informal meeting of the Working Group.

3.EM: Expert meeting or Expert Group Meeting.